



Alaska Board of Dental Examiners

Annual Newsletter

for July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004

The Board of Dental Examiners, Division of Occupational Licensing, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, is pleased to issue the FY 2004 (July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004) Annual Newsletter. The Division of Occupational Licensing policy is that newsletters will not be sent out to all licensees or interested parties, but may be viewed at the following Internet site: www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ/pden.htm. If you do not have access to the Internet, your local library may be able to assist you with access; if you would like a hard copy mailed to you, contact the division and the most recent newsletter will be mailed to you at no cost. The newsletter highlights the activities and focus of the board during the previous fiscal year. As required by law, finalized disciplinary actions will be briefly described. The Dental Board appreciates your interest and would like to hear from you regarding future topics for the newsletter.

Board Membership

Please note that there are four board members terms that will be expiring March 1, 2005. If you are interested in applying to serve on the Board of Dental Examiners, contact the Governor's office at the following address:

Boards and Commissions
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001
(907) 465-3500

In addition, we encourage you to visit the Boards and Commissions' website at:
www.gov.state.ak.us/boards

The site includes specific information on how to apply for a board.

The current members of the board are as follows:

Board Members

Term Expires

James Blasingame, Public Member - Anchorage	March 1, 2005
Mary Cerney, RDH – Fairbanks	March 1, 2007
Dr. David Eichler – North Pole	March 1, 2007
Dr. William Gerace, Vice Chairman - Anchorage	March 1, 2005
Dr. Kevin Gottlieb – Anchorage	March 1, 2006
Rena Lehmann, RDH, Secretary - Anchorage	March 1, 2005
Dr. Arne Pihl – Ketchikan	March 1, 2007
Dr. Rebecca Neslund – Kodiak	March 1, 2005
Dr. Robert Warren, Chairman - Anchorage	March 1, 2007

Division Staff and Personnel Changes

The Division of Occupational Licensing has lost two valuable employees this past year.

Carol Whelan, Records and Licensing Supervisor, and who also was the Records and Licensing Examiner for the Board of Dental Examiners for several years has taken a job with the Department of Education.

Kurt West, Regulations Specialist has taken a job with the Department of Health and Social Services.

The Division has hired Jun Maiquis as the new Regulations Specialist. Mr. Maiquis has been employed with the Division since 1994 as a Licensing Examiner for the Board of Nursing.

Current staff of the Division of Occupational Licensing for the Board of Dental Examiners is

Wanda Fleming, Licensing Examiner – Juneau
Judy Weske, Records and Licensing Supervisor
Jun Maiquis, Regulations Specialist – Juneau
Barbara Gabier, Program Coordinator – Juneau
Rick Urion, Director – Juneau
Rick Younkings, Investigator – Anchorage
Gary Veres, Chief Investigator – Anchorage

Department Name Change

The Department's name officially changed on September 2, 2004 to the "Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development."

Board Meeting

- March 3-4, 2005 – Juneau
- June 24-25, 2005 – Anchorage
- September 16, 2005 – Anchorage
- December 2, 2005 – Anchorage

All meetings are public noticed and meeting information may be accessed through the web site address of www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ and click on "meeting notices".

All board meetings are open to the public and the board encourages participation from all individuals. Each quarterly meeting has a scheduled "public comment" period so your views can be presented directly to the board. Contact the licensing examiner to schedule your appearance. Additionally, you can write, fax, or e-mail the board on any subject except proposed regulations, at any time by addressing your remarks to the licensing examiner. Proposed regulations have specific and limited comment periods. Wanda Fleming, Licensing Examiner, can be contacted by writing to:

Board of Dental Examiners
Division of Occupational Licensing
P.O. Box 110806

Juneau, AK 99811-0806

Telephone: (907) 465-2542

Fax: (907) 465-2974

e-mail: wanda_fleming@commerce.state.ak.us

Division of Occupational Licensing Office Location

The Division of Occupational Licensing, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development has two offices: one located in Juneau and the other located in Anchorage. The Licensing Examiner is located in the Juneau office and the Investigator is located in the Anchorage office. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Juneau Office

State Office Building
333 Willoughby Avenue
9th Floor

Anchorage Office

Atwood Building
550 West 7th Avenue
Suite 1500

Online Services

Anyone with a computer and an internet service provider can easily access State of Alaska websites that contain an abundance of data and information on almost everything State Government is involved with. The State of Alaska home page can be viewed at www.state.ak.us/.

The Division of Occupational Licensing can be accessed at www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ. This website allows visitors to buy a business license, conduct a business license search, occupational licensing search, download a list of license holders, view public notices, and entry into the Board of Dental Examiners' homepage. Dentist and Dental Hygiene applications and renewals can be downloaded as well. Also you can download the Dental Board meeting schedule and a list of disciplinary actions.

Budget

The Dental Board spent \$159,900.00 and received \$148,400.00 in fiscal year 2004 (July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004). The expenditure breakdown is as follows:

Personal Services	\$107,600.00
Travel Expenses	\$10,300.00
Contractual Services	\$39,800.00
Supplies	\$1,200.00
Equipment	\$1,000.00

The Dental Board collects revenue from licensure application fees, initial licensing fees, renewals, verification of licensure, duplicate licenses, copies of certified files, name changes, wall certificates and course approval applications. No outside funding is received.

The Division of Occupational Licensing, prior to the renewal of dental or dental hygiene licenses, reviews the board's budget to determine if the licensing fees will need to be increased or decreased. During this past year, the fees for dentists and dental hygienists were not increased.

Renewals

All dentists' licenses will expire December 31, 2004. License renewal forms will be mailed within 60 days of the expiration date to the most recent address on file.

Dental Hygienists' licenses expire December 31, 2005. License renewal forms will be mailed within 60 days of the expiration date to the most recent address on file.

When you receive your renewal, please take time to read and complete the renewal. If your license is active, you must attach a copy of your current CPR card (both sides). Please make sure that you answer the questions on page 2. On page 3, please make sure that you check the affidavit of compliance with continuing education requirements and that you sign and date the form. Incomplete renewals will not be processed. Do not submit copies of continuing education documentation with your renewal. Licensees chosen for the audit will receive a separate letter requesting the documentation.

Please note – if you have an address change, you must notify this office of the change in address so that your renewal can be sent to the correct address. You may notify this office in writing, by fax, (907) 465-2974, or through e-mail to: wanda_fleming@commerce.state.ak.us of the change in your address. We do not accept verbal address changes.

For a name change, complete the "Change of Name" form located on the division's website. There is a \$5.00 fee to change your name. Upon receipt of a completed form, a certified true copy of the certificate's evidencing the name change, and the \$5.00 fee a new license will be issued to you with your new name.

License statistics in the State of Alaska:

Dentists – Active -	566
Dentists – Inactive -	74
Dentists – Specialty -	90
Dentists – General Anesthetic Permit -	22
Dentists – Parenteral Sedation Permit -	37
Branch Office Permit -	33
Dental Hygienist – Active -	439
Dental Hygienist – Inactive	42
Local Anesthetic Permit	366

Continuing Education

The Alaska Board of Dental Examiners continues to require continuing education for renewal of a dental or dental hygienist license. The Division of Occupational Licensing conducts a random audit of 10% of the renewal applications each licensing period. Noncompliance, deficient or fraudulent applicants will be subject to disciplinary actions. The following requirements for continuing education are as follows:

DENTIST – completion of at least 28 contact hours of continuing education (12 AAC 28.400(a)(1) and (2)).

DENTAL HYGIENIST – completion of at least 14 contact hours of continuing education (12 AAC 28.400(b)(1) and (2)).

The continuing education hours required for renewal of an active dentist license or an active dental hygiene license may include no more than four hours of CPR training for the entire renewal period (12 AAC 28.410(c)).

A licensee may obtain all continuing education hours from self-study programs offered by a dental or dental hygiene college or university, the AGD, or the ADA that have been approved by the board (12 AAC 28.410(a)(4)).

As a reminder, Continuing Education SUBJECT MATTER MUST RELATE DIRECTLY TO DENTAL PATIENT CLINICAL CARE 12 AAC 28.410(a).

Continuing Education Audit Process

A licensee selected for the continuing education audit will be sent a letter from the licensing examiner requesting copies of certificates documenting the hours claimed for the applicable licensing period. Licensees will be given 30 days to respond to the audit letter.

You must retain your original certificates documenting continuing education for at least four years from the date of completion of the continuing competency activity or until you have been notified of completion of the continuing education audit (if selected for such audit).

Licensees selected for the audit must provide:

- Copies of actual continuing education certificates awarded for the hours claimed within the applicable licensing period that relate directly to dental patient clinical care. A listing of courses taken is not acceptable.

Courses that have not been approved by the board have been management classes, HIPA class, and OSHA classes.

The board will review completed audits at a regularly scheduled meeting. Licensees who pass the audit will be notified by letter. Please be aware that a computer program randomly selects licensees for audit and due to the random nature of selection, licensees may be audited for multiple renewal cycles.

The board at their June 25-26, 2004 meeting set the following guidelines for the Paralegal with the Division of Occupational Licensing to use if a person does not comply with the continuing education audit:

If a licensee is unable to supply proof within 30 days of receiving an audit notice, they will be fined up to a maximum of \$5,000 composed of two elements 1) \$2,000 for falsification of records and 2) \$200 per credit hour they are lacking and that they will need to complete the deficit hours within three months and those hours are not applicable to the next two renewal periods 3) that there is a mandatory subsequent audit for the next two renewal periods 4) there is an automatic reprimand on their license and 5) there is a license suspension if the required documentation and fines are not paid within 60 days. In extreme situations the board may consider a letter of explanation

Disciplinary Actions

Dr Elias O'Donoghue – Fairbanks

May 11, 2004 – License on Probation – Conditions apply

Dr. Kerry Kennedy – Anchorage

June 25, 2004 – Board adopted Memorandum of Agreement – License on Probation – conditions apply

To receive further information regarding disciplinary actions contact the Division of Occupational

Licensing in writing. You may fax your request to this office at (907) 465-2974.

Investigations

The Division of Occupational Licensing Investigation Unit obtains information through complaints as well as a variety of other sources. A careful examination of the information is conducted to ascertain whether a violation of statute or regulation has occurred. If it appears as though a violation has occurred, a case is opened. All cases that require “profession related” expertise will be brought to individual board members or other professional experts for review, opinion and guidance. Once sufficient information is obtained, past history of the board in similar cases is considered and a determination is made as to the course of action. If it is determined that licensing action is required, an attempt is made to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the respondent. If an agreement cannot be reached, an Accusation will be filed usually resulting in a hearing. In some cases, the respondent chooses to sign a Voluntary Surrender. The board must review all agreements, surrenders and proposed decisions by the Hearing Officer.

For filing a complaint, you may contact the Division of Occupational Licensing at the Anchorage office. The Investigator for the Dental board is Rick Younkens (907) 269-8189.

Dental/Dental Hygiene News

Code of Ethics Information

The Board of Dental Examiners would like to remind all dentists and dental hygienists that they are to adhere to their Code of Ethics in accordance with 12 AAC 28.905 – Ethical Standards.

Advertising

Even though the board sent a letter December 11, 2003 to all licensed dentists regarding proper advertising, the Board is aware of continued problems with the yellow pages advertising listings for the 2004-2005 phone books. There continues to be advertisements, which are in violation of AS 08.36.315(3) and 12 AAC 28.905.

The board would like to take this opportunity to remind all licensees of the State Statutes and Regulations that govern proper and accepted listings. The following statutes and regulations apply:

AS 08.36.315 – Grounds for Discipline, Suspension or Revocation of a License. The Board may revoke or suspend the license of dentist or may reprimand, censure, or discipline a dentist, or both, of the board finds..... that the dentist

- (3) advertised professional dental services in a false or misleading manner.

Also, under regulation, Article 8. General Provisions:

12 AAC 28.905 – Ethical Standards. (b) The American Dental Association's Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct, with official advisory opinions revised to April 2002, is adopted by reference as the ethical standards for dentists, and applies to all dentists in the state.

Please refer to the following sections in the Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Code regarding advertising:

Section 5.F – Advertising

Section 5.H – Announcement of Specialization and Limitation of Practice

Section 5.I – General Practitioner Announcement of Services

With the above statutes and regulations in reference, please adhere to the following when finalizing your ads:

1. Do not refer to yourself as a specialist or specializing in any discipline unless you have completed the appropriate post-graduate training and accredited education.
2. Do not list your practice, as "specializing" in a field of dentistry that is not recognized by the American Dental Association as a "Specialty." For example: "Cosmetic Dentistry" is not an American Dental Association (ADA) recognized specialty.
3. Do not list yourself in the "Specialty" area of the Yellow Pages if you are not a graduate of an accredited program in that specialty of dentistry. For example: Only "Prosthodontists" should be listed in the Prosthodontic Section (Crown, bridges, Dentures) of the Yellow Pages "Specialty Guide".

4. Do not list membership in an organization or completion of a course of continuing education that would imply to the public that the designation represents an academic degree, when such is not the case.
5. General Dentists may announce fellowships or other credentials earned in the area of general dentistry so long as they avoid any communications that express or imply specialization and the announcement includes the disclaimer that he dentist is a general dentist.

The board realizes that frequently the "Yellow Page" sales people convince the Dentist and staff personnel to list their practices in the areas that are misleading to the public, but the licensee is ultimately responsible and will be held accountable for any statute, regulation, or ethics violation.

Regulations

The board's regulations for streamlining the application process for dentists and dental hygienists became effective January 22, 2004. These regulations now require that all licensees – dentists and dental hygienists submit a Professional background Information Services Credential Review (PBIS) report. This is for all applicants applying for licensure by examination and/or credentials. There are two levels of examination for dentists and dental hygienists.

Level II Report – This is required of those applicants who currently hold or have held a dental and/or dental hygiene license in jurisdiction before the 90 days immediately proceeding the date of application.

Level III Report – This is required of those applicants who have not previously held a dental and/or dental hygiene license in any jurisdiction before the 90 days immediately proceeding the date of application.

Level II Report – This is required of all applicants dental and/or dental hygiene who are applying for licensure by credentials.

The Level II Report requires more of the documentation to be submitted with the PBIS report. The Level III report is a criminal background check and the applicant will need to submit required documentation to complete the application.

Regulations that became effective this past year addressed the following:

12 AAC 28.320(3) and (4) – Application for certification to administer local anesthetic agents
12 AAC 28.935 – Dental hygienist licensure by examination
12 AAC 28.937 – Dental hygienist licensure by credentials
12 AAC 28.940 – Dental licensure by examination
12 AAC 28.951 – Dental Licensure by credentials
12 AAC 28.500 – Dental hygienist Examination

New Licenses Issued July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004

Licensure of Dentists by Examination

Daniel Asay
Deborah Wrigley
Kyung Hon Chung
Kyle Stiefel
Jesse Hronkin
Shane Murphy
Kendall Skinner
Shad Helm
Jeffrey Symonds
Dominic Wenzell
Lindsay Bingham
Peter Moriarty
Jason Mauseth
Hans Nordstrom
George Jedlicka
James Darby
Justin Barber
George Johnson
Benjamin Gilbert
Timothy Lethin

Licensure of Dentists by Credentials

Fernando Barrera
Lawrence Foster
Gaar Edwards
Jan Mitchell
Christopher Henry
Suzanne Eberling
Ruby Carlson-Larson
Clifford White
Wendi Goldston
William Bergeron, Jr.
James Heath, III
William Catelli, II
James Roberts
Craig Booth
Mohamed Awad
David Rhoden

James Kretzschmar
John Brock

Dental Hygienist by Examination

Michael Steele
Kathryn Morley
Lotes Barkley
Sarah Sullivan
David Schram
Susan Gilbert
Alison Nelson
Monica Douthit
Ester Pederson
Daneial Keays
Daira Shaw
Michelle O'Brien
Loyce Siegel
Gail Tuller
Karri Holub
Brenda Moore
Rebekah Hopkins
Tess Roesner
Pamela O'Brien
Tamra Kissel
Tatum McPhetridge
Jennifer Moeller
Yvonne Wilson
Kelli Arricale
Shannon Almeda
Jennifer Kukowski
Taffy Uscola

Dental Hygienist by Credentials

Anna Allen
Martha Solis
Julie LaFrance
Cherie Cowin